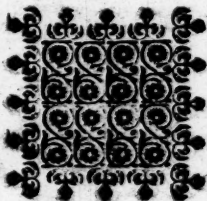


346
THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS

Appointed by the Kings Majestie and
Parliament of *Scotland*, for conserving the Articles
of the Treaty and Peace betwixt the King-
domes of *Scotland* and *England*.

WITH

Two Letters sent to His Majestie, by the Lords of His
Privie Councel, wherein the Councell doth re-
commend to His Majestie, the desires of
the saids Commissioners: and the Peti-
tion of the Commissioners of the
Generall Assembly.



Printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the Kings
most Excellent Majestie. 1643.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

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Foxwell



At *Edinburgh* the last day of
March, 1643.



The Commissioners appointed by the Kings Majesty, and Parliament of this Kingdome, for conserving the Peace betwixt the two Nations, Having in discharge of that great and necessary trust reposed in them, sent some of their own number to deal with His Majesty, and the Parliament of England, for settling these unhappy differences that are arisen in that Kingdome, and having at severall meetings still expected to heare of their progresse in so good a Work; Tet contrary to their expectation, they finde that all meanes of intelligence is taken away betwixt them, so as they who are sent, are no more able to return to the Commissioners an accompt of their diligence and endeavours, then the Commissioners themselves can imagine what may be conceived to be amisse in the Commission and Instructions sent with them. But in regard that the usage and successe, whatsoever it shall be at this time, is the true touch-stone and undeniable evidence for this whole Kingdome, what they may expect in the growth and increase of these troubles of their Brethren in England: And because even in this Kingdome, all that are enemies to the Peace and Reformation established within the same, are set on work of purpose, to spread false reports in all the corners of the Land, for strengthening the wicked and malignant party, and weakning the mindes and hands of all honest men; and

happely at this time are spreading false pretences of the hard and unexpected restraint of these that are imployed in Commission to His Majesty, and Parliament of England, as if they were warranted by the Commissioners who sent them, to seek such things, as were not fit for His Majestie to grant, or this Kingdome to crave. Therefore the said Commissioners for conserving the Peace, have thought fit, that for the right information of all whom it concernes, this following Copie of their Proceedings be forthwith printed and published, That thereby the Commissioners themselves may have from all honest men that love the Truth and the intended Reformation in England, a testimony and approbation that they have done their duty, These who are imployed from them, may be the more encouraged to go on against all straits and difficulties, in pursuance of so necessary desires; without the obtaining of which, the present Peace and happinesse of this Nation, cannot in all likelihood long continue: And this whole Kingdome may have the true grounds of their resentment, in behalf of these who represent them and all ther desires at this time.

Arch. Primerose

Cler. Commission.

H I S



HIS
MAJESTIES
LETTER,

Direct to the COMMISSIONERS
at their first meeting in September. 1642.

CHARLES R.



Ight trusty and wel-beloved Cousins
and Counsellours, right trusty & trusty
and wel-beloved Counsellours, & trusty
and wel-beloved, We greet you well.
Having bin informed that upon Petiti-
on of the Commissioners from Our late
Generall Assembly, Our Councell thought fit that you
should meet, for discharge of that trust imposed on you
by Us and Our Parliament, whereby all fair means may
be used to prevent such troubles and divisions as may in-
terrupt or endanger the Common Peace of Our King-
domes: And as it ought to be the continuall studie, and
care of all good and pious Princes to preserve their peo-
ple; So certainly it is the duetie of all loyall and faithfull
Subjects to maintain the greatnesse and just Authoritie

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of.

of their Princes ; so that without this reciprocall endeavour , there can be no happinesse for the Prince , nor security for the people. We are confident Our late Actions in Scotland, will to all posterity be an acceptable witness of Our care in preserving the libertie of these Our Subjects, and Our desire to settle a perfect peace in that Our Kingdome : And We are also confident , that the many good Acts we have past here since the down-sitting of this Parliament (indeed denying none but such as denied Us any power at all , and were never so much as demanded from any of Our Predecessors) will bear the like testimonie of Our Affection to the good and peace of this Kingdome , though the successe hath not been alike. For though We have used Our best endeavours to prevent the present distractions and threatening dangers, yet so prevalent have been the opposers of Us, and the peace of Our Kingdomes , as not so much as a Treaty can be obtained (though by Our severall messages We have descended to demand and presse it) unlesse upon such conditions as would , either by taking all power of Government from Us, make Us as no King, Or by forcing Us to quite the protection of such, as (for obeying Us according to Law and their Oath of Allegiance) they would have Traitors, and so make us do an Act unworthy of a King : Yet so desirous We are to save Our Subjects blood, (which cannot but be prodigally spent, if We be necessitate by Force of Arms to decide thir unhappy differences) that no sooner any such Treaty shall be offered unto Us by them (which with Honour and Safety We can receive) but We shall cheerfully embrace it. This We have thought fit to acquaint you withall , that from Our selves you may know Our Love to peace: And
We

We doubt not but your meeting at this time wil produce something which will witnesse your tender respect to Our Honour and Safety; And so much do We confide in your affections, as We shall absolutely leave the wayes and means of expressing it to your selves. So We bid you heartily farewell. *From our Court at Stafford the 18. of September. 1642.*

The COMMISSIONERS Answer To His MAJESTIES Letter.

Most sacred Sovereigne,

AS we esteem it a speciall mark of your Royall Favour, that Your Majestie is graciously pleased from Your self to acquaint us with Your love to Peace, and that Your Majesty thinks that the continuall care and studie of all good and pious Princes, ought to be the preservation of their People; So do we with all thankfulness acknowledge, That it is the duty of all faithfull and loyall Subjects, to maintain the Greatnes and just Authority of their Princes. And lest the dangerous differences betwixt Your Majesty, and Your Parliament, should any longer eclipse Your Majesties Favour, from Your good Subjects, or weaken that wherein doth chiefly consist Your Majesties greatest strength, the Affections of Your People; wee

are

are constrained (from the conscience of our duty, from our love to Your Royall Person, from the sense of Princely benignity, and for discharge of that trust imposed on us by Your Majesty, and the Parliament) to endeavour by all fair means, and so far as in us lyes, to remove these unhappy troubles and divisions, which may interrupt, and (as we conceive) do really endanger the common Peace of Your Kingdomes so far, as if by the wisdom of Your Majestie, and Your Parliament, there be not a more amicable decision, than by the sword, cannot but in end produce effusion of blood, and a world of greater calamities than we can expresse. These considerations have moved us to resolve to send some of our number for our selves, and (according to the trust committed unto us) in name and behalf of this Kingdome, To tender our best service and endeavours, for removing of these unhappy distractions. And in regard of the present posture of that Kingdome, wherein Armies and Troopes are on foot, through the severall parts thereof; And that these who shall be sent from this, may without danger repaire to Your Majestie, and Your Parliament, we desire that a safe conduct may be sent to them: For which end also we have addressed our desire to the Parliament, as will appeare to Your Majesty, by the Copie of that which wee have sent to them, and will be showne to Your Majesty by the Lord Secretary. Which being granted and returned, we intend (with Gods assistance) to walke in this great businesse with that dutie and integrity as may give reall demonstration to the world of our high respect of Your Majesties Greatnesse, Honour, and Safety, and of our true affection to the prosperity

Prosperity and Peace of Your Kingdomes: which is and ever shall be the earnest desire and continuall care of Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh, 29 September. 1642.

*Declaration sent from the Commissioners
to the Parliament of England.*



He Noblemen, Barons, and Burgesſes, Commissioners appointed by His Maieſtie and Eſtates of Parliament of the Kingdome of Scotland, for conſerving the Peace ſo happily eſtabliſhed betwixt the two Kingdomes, being met at Edinburgh, September 29. 1642. and entring into ſuch ſerious conſideration, both of their intereſt and duetie, as the importance of ſo great affairs, and the preſent condition of the Kingdomes do require, They find themſelves bound, not only by the common Bonds of the Law of Nature and of Chriſtian duetie, to follow after the things which make for conſervation of peace, and prevention of trouble, But alſo by the more ſpeciall Bond of their nationall Oath, and the publick Faith of the Parliament of this Kingdome, in all juſt and honourable wayes to endeavour the preſervation of the Union betwixt the Kingdomes of Scotland and England; And not only this Bond, but authoriſed alſo by the late Treaty, & by their Commiſſion to be carefull (during the intervall betwixt the ſittings of the Parliaments of this Kingdome) that the Peace betwixt

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the two Kingdomes be continued , and to endeavour by all good means to prevent all trouble and division. And if any debate or difference shall happen to arise , which may tend to the disturbance of the common peace , to labour to remove or compose the same, according to the power granted unto them ; And if any thing shall fall forth , which is above their power, and which cannot be remedied by them , To represent the same to his Majesty and the Parliaments *respective* , That by their wisdom and authoritie all occasions and causes of trouble being removed , the peace of the Kingdomes may be perpetuate to all posteritie : In performing of which weighty and necessary dutie they must give account of their diligence and faithfulness to the next ensuing Parliament. And considering the imminent dangers and calamities which the great differences , and distractions betwixt His Majestie and His Parliament of England, may bring upon that Kingdome, and by consequence upon this, Their interest in His Majestie their native Sovereigne being such , that they are neerly concerned in the safety of His Royall Person , and just Authority ; And such their relation to England , that the preservation of the libertie and peace of that Kingdome, doth much import to the preservation of the Religion , Libertie , and Peace of this ; the union of the two Kingdomes being so strict in the Bonds of Nature, Religion and Policie, that they cannot but share in the prosperitie and calamities of each other : So that if these differences betwixt the King and his Parliament , shall come , by Force of Arms, and by the effusion of bloud, to be decided , (which GOD forbid) the Kingdome of Scotland cannot but in end be involved in that common calamity. They therefore
from

from the deep sense and feeling they have of the apparent danger of His Majesties Person, and the ruine wherewith His Kingdomes are threatned, Have resolved by all good means to acquite themselves of that duty they owe to GOD by their Nationall Oath to their Sovereigne by their allegiance, and their greatest Native interest in His Royall Person, To their brethren of England by their publick Faith; and the strictest Bonds of the alliance of the Kingdomes in the prosperity, and sufferings of each other, and by their like care exprest towards this Kingdome in the time of their troubles, And to their Countrey by nature, and the trust reposed in them by the Parliament of this Kingdome, to which they cannot be answerable; if they shall be silent at this time, and sit still as idle beholders: By contributing their best endeavours to prevent all troubles and division; and labouring with all tendernesse according to their power, to remove these differences and distractions, which do evidently tend to the disturbance of the common Peace of the Kingdomes; And by representing these imminent dangers and calamities, to His Majestie and the Parliament of England; That by their wisdom all these occasions, and causes of troubles being removed, the peace of the Kingdomes may be preserved, for which purpose they will never shun any pains or travell: And at this time, lest the evils be more incurable afterward, they have thought fit to send up to his Majesty and the Parliament some of their numbers; And that they in these commotions of Souldiers, and people in Arms, may repair thither with the greater safety, doe desire that there be granted to them a safe conduct by His Majestie and the Parliament of England,

that no good means may be left un-assayed, whereby both Kingdomes may attain to their desired end of Honour and Happinesse to His Majestie, and Unity and Peace among themselves.

*His Majesties second Letter to
the Commissioners.*

CHARLES R.

 ight trustie and right wel-beloved Cousins and Counsellors, right trustie and trustie and wel-beloved Counsellors, and trustie and wel-beloved, We greet you well. By your Letter of the 29. of September We perceive how sensible you are of the present distractions of this Kingdome, which cannot be a greater grief to any then to Our Self: But seeing all the means We could possibly use for the removall thereof are (by the practices of such as studie division) prevented, and all Our offers of treating (in a fair way to settle these distempers) slighted and not regarded; We are (for the defence of the true Religion, the maintenance of the liberties of the Subject; the Priviledge of Parliament, and Our just, and ever till now unquestioned Authority) necessitate to put Our Self in the posture We are now in, and We shall no further beg a blessing from GOD on Our Proceedings, then We intend the preservation of these. As for your resolution of sending here some of your number, We see no reason why they should apprehend

prehend any danger in their repair to Us; for they may be confident to have a safe and free access to Our Person, which we have never denyed to any of Our good Subjects who repaired to Us in a dutiful manner, and were not out of Our protection. Therefore We conceive the granting of a safe conduct to any such absolutely non-necessary: But if they apprehended any danger from the present disorders of this Kingdome, & Armies now on foot, We wil grant such a Passe both for their coming and return, as We ordinarily give to any of Our Subjects or Servants for passing through Our garison Towns or Armies: Which we doubt not will both secure them, and satisfie you. So We bid you heartily farewell. *From Our Court at Bridgnorth the 13 of October. 1642.*

*The Parliament of Englands Answer
to the Commissioners Declaration
of the 28. of September, 1642.*

WHE the Lords and Commons in the Parliament of England, having duely considered the Proposition made to us by the Noblemen, Barons, and Burgesses, Commissioners appointed by His Majesty, and the Estates of the Parliament of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, agreed upon at Edinburgh

the 29. of Sept. 1642. do acknowledge their wisedome & brotherly affection therein exprest, for conservation of the Peace of this Kingdome, according to the late Treatie, ratified in the Parliaments of both Kingdomes: And that they being equally interest in the cause of these troubles, That is, the malignant designs now in hand, by force of Armes to hinder Reformation of Religion and Church-government, and to introduce Poperie and Superstition, cannot long be free from the consequences thereof, The like combustions and commotions in that Kingdome, if the Popish and malignant party prevaile here: And do well approve the tenderesse and care of our troubles and dangers, as being agreeable to the Intention of that Act, and answerable to the like care lately exprest by this Parliament in thir troubles. And whereas for discharge of that mutuall trust, which by the fore-mentioned action of Pacification, is reposed in the Commissioners of both the Kingdomes *respective*, They have thought fit to send some of this number to His Majesty, and this Parliament, and for the better security in these times of commotions of Souldiers and people in Armes, we have resolved that we the Lords and Commons, shall grant them a safe conduct, as is desired in their Proposition afore-mentioned, excepting out of the same, *James Duke of Lennox*, and *Robert Earle of Roxburgh*, being both delinquents to this Parliament. And that we will concurre with the Commissioners of that State in all good means, for the preservation of Gods true Religion, the honour and happinesse of His Majesty, the just right and liberties, together with the peace, prosperity, and unity of both the Kingdomes. October 20. 1642.

Subscribitur Jo. Brown. Cler. Parliam.

An

*An ordinance of the Lords and Commons
in Parliament, for the security and safe
conduct of the Commissioners of the
Realm of Scotland, for the conservati-
on of the Peace made 24. October 1642.*



Whereas in pursuance of the Act of Pacification and Oblivion, made in the 17. year of His Majesties Reigne, diverse Noblemen, Barons, and Burgessees, have been nominate and appointed by His Majesty, and Estates of Parliament of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, to be Commissioners for the conservation of the Peace of both the Kingdomes, who have thought good to send

being some of their own number, to His Majesty, and this Parliament, in discharge of that trust reposed in them by that Act of Pacification, for their better suretie in these times of commotion of Souldiers and people in Armes, It is ordained by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, that the saids Commissioners which are to be sent as afore, with all their servants and retinue, shall be protected by the power and authority of Parliament, and kept safe and free from all danger, molestation, restraint, and detention in their repair to *London*, and during their abode here, and in their return back again. And for the further notice and manifestation hereof, it is ordained


ordered , that the Speakers of both the Houses shall subscribe this full and free safe conduct and safeguard to the Persons above-written, whereby they may be secured from all harm & restraint in their passage ,abode, and repasse, to be interpreted in als large, and ample, and beneficiall manner, and with als full and reall assurance, as ever any safeguard or safe conduct, may or ought to be interpreted, strengthened, and confirmed, by the publick Faith of the Kingdome ; and that any Copy hereof under the hands of both, or either of the Clarkes of the Lords or Commons Houses , shall be of als great force and effect, for the safe conduct, and securing of the saids Persons, or any of them, their retinue and servants, as the Originall signed by the Speakers, as is before exprest. Requiring all Officers and Souldiers in the Army , as likewise all Sheriffs, and Majors , and others His Majesties loving Subjects, to observe the same with all due obedience and care : And likewise to give them all aid and assistance , as often as occasion shall require , as they will answer the contrary at their perill. It is further ordained, as before, That *James Duke of Lennox* , and *Robert Earle of Roxburgh* , shall be excepted out of this present safe conduct , and shall receive no benefit nor protection by the same.

*Gray of Work , Speaker of the
House of Peeres.*

*William Lenthal, Speaker of
the House of Commons.*

The COMMISSIONERS, *second*
Letter to His MAJESTIE
for a safe conduct.

Most sacred Sovereigne,

S the high respect we owe to Your Majesty, and the trust put upon us for preserving the common peace of this Kingdome, did lay a necessity on us to offer our best service for removing these unhappy troubles and divisions betwixt Your Majesty, and Your Parliament, and to crave a safe conduct for such persons, as to that end, were to repaire to Your Majesty; so the sense of the same duety and affection, makes us to renew our earnest and humble desire, for the reasons more fully exprest in our letters to Your Majesties Secretary, and to the Earle of *Lindsay*. And Your Majesty manifesting, that the service which we offer, is acceptable to Your Majesty, will be a great encouragement to enable us with the more chearfulness to go about the performance of that duety, which in a time of so imminent dangers we owe to Your Majesty, and the Peace of Your Kingdomes. And so praying God to blesse Your Majesty with a prosperous reigne over us, we rest Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh 16. November 1642.

*The Commissioners Letter to the Earle of
Lanerick His Majesties Secretary.*

Our very Honourable good Lord,

WE have at length considered the Letter sent from His Majesty to us, concerning a safe conduct to such as shall be employed by us, conform to our Letters to His Majesty of 29. Sept. last. But finding the same to be so dubious, as we cannot perceive a clear approbation from His Majesty of our sending and mediation, nor yet a safe conduct sent unto us, we have deferred at this time to send up any (although the Parliament have declared their willingnesse both in their answer and safe conduct, as will appear by the inclosed Copies thereof) till His Majesties further pleasure be known: Yet the present posture of affairs there, in respect of the great distractions, Our interest in His Majesties Person, and common peace of thir Kingdomes, The conscience of our Intentions, The confidence we have of His Majesties justice and goodnes, and our resolution to carry our selves in such a dutifull way as becometh His Majesties loyall Subjects, zealous of his Honour, And the desire we have, that the offer of our service may be acceptable to His Majesty, enforceth us again at this time to pursue our former desires to His Majesty, by this inclosed Letter: which we desire Your Lordship to present to His Majesty with the first conveniencie, and therewithall to sollicite, that His Majesty may be pleased more fully to expresse His acceptation of this our service and mediation, and to grant us a safe Passe under His royall Hand and Seal, which must be drawn in such a way, as
may

may fully secure these who are to be employed in their repair thither, abode there, and return again, and that some authentick doubles be also sent thereof. Wherein expecting Your Lordships care, we rest Your Lordships assured friends. *Edinburgh 16. November 1642.*

His MAJESTIES safe conduct.

CHARLES R.



Hereas the Commissioners appointed by Us and Our Parliament of *Scotland*, for preserving the Articles of the Treaty, have thought fit to send unto Us

being some of their number. Therefore (for their better security in these times of commotions of Souldiers, and people in Arms) We have thought fit to declare to all Our Officers and Souldiers of Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others Our Subjects whatsoever; That We have taken, like as by thir presents We do take the saids Commissioners, and any others their adjuncts hereafter, being of their own number, with all their meniall and domestick servants and attendants, into Our Royall protection and safeguard: Assuring them upon the Royall Word and Faith of a Prince, that the aforesaid

their persons, servants, and whole retinue foresaid, shall be safe and free from all danger, molestation, restraint, or detention

tion in their repair to Us, Our Houses of Parliament,
 or any part of Our Kingdome of England, abode therein,
 and in their return to Scotland at their pleasure. And for
 the further assurance hereof, We are graciously pleased
 to signe, and cause affix Our Signet to this Our full & free
 safe conduct and safeguard, to the persons above-named,
 their saids adjuncts, servants, and retinue aforesaid, from
 all harm and restraint in their coming, abode in this King-
 dome, and return to Scotland, in als ample a meaning and
 recall assurance, as ever any safeguard or safe conduct, with
 all the clauses thereof, in this, or any other Kingdome,
 doth import, and that a Copy hereof, under the hand
 of any of Our principall Secretaries of State, shall be of
 als great force and effect, for the safe conduct and securing
 of their persons, or any of them, their retinue and ser-
 vants aforesaid, as this Originall signed by Our Royall
 Hand, & under Our Signet. And We ordain this Our safe
 conduct to be publickly intimated to all the Officers and
 Souldiers of Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others
 Our Subjects, whereby none do pretend ignorance of the
 same: Requiring and commanding them to observe and
 give ready obedience hereunto, or to a Copy hereof,
 (so attested under the hands of any of Our principall Se-
 cretaries of State) as they will answer upon the contrary
 at their highest perils. *Given at our Court at Oxford.*
2. December, in 18. year of Our Reigne, 1642.

*To all Generalls of Our Armies, Lieutenants Gene-
 ralls, Commanders of Our Towns, Forts, and
 Castles, and all others Officers and Souldiers in
 Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others Our
 loving Subjects whatsoever, whom these presents
 may concerne.*

The


*The Commission and Instructions given to
the Lord Chancellor, &c. 18. Jan. 1643.*



WE the Commissioners, appointed by the Kings Majestie and Estates of Parliament of the Kingdome of Scotland, finding our selves warranted and obliged by our Commission, and by the late Treaty betwixt the two Kingdomes, to use all good means, and to contribute our utmost endeavours for unity of Religion and Uniformitie of Church-government within His Majesties Dominions, and for removall of the differences betwixt His Majestie and His Houses of Parliament, and being willing to acquit our selves, according to the trust reposed in us by our Commission, and to leave nothing undone, whereby we may discharge our consciences to GOD, and our duty to His Majestie our Native Sovereigne, to testifie our affections to our Brethren in England, and provide for the peace betwixt the two Kingdomes, Have given and granted, and by the Tenour hereof gives and grants full power and Commission, expresse bidding and charge to *John* Earl of *Lowdon*, Lord High Chancellor, *John* Earl of *Lindsay*, Sir *Archibald Johnston* of *Waristoun*, and Master *Robert Barclay*, Provest of *Irwing*, or to any two of them, the Lord Chancellor being one of the two, and to such others as from time to time shall be joyned to them by our Warrant, to repair to the Kings Majestie and Houses of the Parliament of England, and to use their best endeavours for effectuating the particulars above-written, and all that may advance the same, conforme to

the particular Instructions given, or to be given to them for that effect , firme and stable , holding and for to hold , all and whatsoever things shalbe lawfully done herein , according to their Instructions. In witnesse whereof we have subscribed thir presents , with our hands. At *Edinburgh*. 18. January.

Instructions given by the Commissioners appointed by the Kings Majestie and Parliament of Scotland , for conserving the Articles of the Treaty , and Common peace betwixt the Kingdomes , to Iohn Earl of Lowdon , Lord High Chancellor of this Kingdome, &c.

OU shall with all earnestnesse intreat His Majestie and the Parliament of England , that Episcopacie may be totally removed, and that there may be unity of Religion and uniformity of Kirk-government in all His Majesties Dominions, which by the late Treaty betwixt the Kingdomes , and by our Commission we find our selves Warranted and obliged by all good means to endeavour upon the reasons and grounds exprest in our former desires, given in in name of this Kingdome, the time of the Treaty , and in the Remonstrances sent from the Parliament of England to the Generall Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland, and

and the Supplications and Declarations sent from the Generall Assembly, and their Commissioners to the Kings Majestie & both Houses of Parliament, and which was seconded with the earnest recommendation of His Majesties Privie Councell, and is now renewed by Petition from the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly, the desire whereof you shall assist. And to this effect you shall sollicite His Majestie and both Houses of Parliament for a meeting of sound Divines of both Kingdomes, who may prepare matters for the consideration of His Majesty and the Parliament, and of more full Assemblies.

You shall shew, that although we neither should, nor will stretch our selves beyond our line, to judge of the laws & proceedings of another Kingdome, nor take upon us to decide the differences betwixt the Kings Majestie and the Parliament of England: Yet we are so neerly interested in the safety of His Majesties Royall Person, and just Authority, and in the preservation of the Liberty and Peace of the Kingdome of England, more fully exprest in our Letter and Declaration of the 29. of *September* last, that we cannot be answerable to our manifold obligations, and the trust reposed in us by His Majestie, and the Parliament of this Kingdome, if we should not endeavour by all means the removall of these unhappy differences betwixt His Majesty and His Houses of Parliament.

You shall therefore humbly entreat, and earnestly labour, that His Majestie and the Honourable Houses of Parliament may in the deep of their wisdom, take such fair and compendious wayes, as may remove the causes and occasions of these troubles, without the effusion of
more

more blood, and that there may be a more peaceable and amicable decision, then by the sword, which cannot but be the occasion of great jealousies and fears to all His Majesties good Subjects, and tend to the endangering of His Royall Person and Kingdomes.

And that there may be a right understanding betwixt His Majestie and His Parliament, you shall show, that it is earnestly wished and desired, that the Honourable Houses of Parliament would think and resolve upon the fittest wayes, for removing of all prejudices and mistakes, and leave no good nor fair means un-assayed which may witness their high and tender respect of His Majesties sacred Person and Royall greatnesse, and may induce His Majestie to return to His Parliament, that they may be honoured and strengthened with His Royall presence.

You shall likewise from the deep sense we have of the danger of His Majesties Royall Person, and the ruine wherewith His Kingdomes are threatned, shew His Majesty, that it is our humble desire and faithfull advice, that (the impediments which keep His Majestie and His Parliament at such a distance being removed) His Majesty may graciously be pleased to hearken to the invitations of His Parliament, that there might be such a mutuall confidence, as His Majesty may return to His Parliament, which is His great and most impartiall Councell, that by a happy conjunction with them, all the great and publick affairs of that Kingdomie may be so settled, as may tend most to His Majesties Honour, the maintenance of His just Authority, the preservation of the Priviledges of Parliament, the liberty of the Subject and prosperity of His Majesties Kingdomes.

In regard not only of the great impediment to the
Work

Work of Reformation, but also of the evident danger of the Protestant Religion, by Papiſts in Arms within His Maſteſties Dominions, as was more fully remonſtrate to us by Petitions from the Kirk, and from the Gentry, which we cannot but acknowledge. You ſhall deal earneſtly that all Papiſts now aloſt and in arms in England, be diſ-armed & diſ-banded out of any Armies, wherein they are; and eſpecially thoſe in the Earl of New-Caſtles Army, becauſe the moſt part thereof have been levied, and have their reſidence neer our borders, and may do us greater prejudice, nor Garifons in Barwick and Carlile, which yet were expreſſly contrary to the laſt Treaty.

You ſhall ſhew His Maſteſty, That as we are obliged by our Commiſſion to be carefull that the peace betwixt the Kingdomes may be continued, and when any debate or difference doth ariſe to the diſturbance of the common peace, to labour to remove and compoſe the ſame according to our power; ſo when any thing falls out beyond our power, and cannot be remedied by us, we are bound to preſent the ſame to His Maſteſtie, and the next enſuing Parliament *reſpective*, That by His Maſteſties authority and theirs, the peace of the Kingdomes may be perpetuated to all poſterity. And therefore ſeeing we conceive the removing of the preſent diſtractions, to be a work of difficultie beyond our power, & greater than can be by us remedied, and may come to that height before the next Trienniall Parliament, that any remedie that can come thereby will prove too late, You ſhall therefore in all humility beſeech His Maſteſty, according to His gracious promiſe expreſt in the late Parliament, preſently to indiſt a new Parliament, to als ſhort a day as upon War-rant from His Maſteſtie, the Subjects may be lawfully

warned thereto , that by their wisdome and care , some good means may be found out, whereby the occasion and causes of these troubles which have already shaken , and do threaten the over-throw of our common peace, may (als far as is possible) be removed, and the calamities like to ensue thereby, timously prevented.

Concerning the time of moving this demand , if you find the offer of our service acceptable, and that the King, and Parliament are upon accommodation , and like to agree, you may forbear the proponing of it. But if you find that His Majesty and the Parliament are not like to agree in haste , then you shall instantly without delay, desire that a Parliament be presently indicted , as is above exprest.

You shall be carefull , that the whole Articles of the former Treaty may be observed , and make the best use thereof , for removing of all differences , and impediments , and for continuing of the Peace and Union betwixt the Kingdomes.

You shall adhere closely and positively to our desires for removall of Episcopacie , and other impediments for unity of Religion, and uniformitie of Kirk-government : But concerning differences betwixt His Majesty, and the Houses of Parliament , about particulars or persons in matters civill , you shall desire and endeavour , that the Parliament may out of their wisdome , love to peace, and respect to His Majesty , give Him all satisfaction, so far as may stand with their Religion and Liberties. And that His Majesty may in things which may stand with His Honour and just Authority, give contentment to the Parliament, and make himself more happy in the affections of His people , which is the best way of glory and greatnes to His Majesty, & prosperity to His Kingdomes.

Seeing

Seeing there can be no relation more near, nor society more comfortable than that Conjunction which is betwixt the Kings M^{tie}, and His Royal Consort the Queen, and that her M^{ties} so long absence cannot but be grievous to both; you shall therefore shew our humble and earnest desires to His Majesty for the Queen her speedy return to England: And having obtained His Majesties leave and approbation, you shall desire the Hon: Houses of Parliament may be pleased to joyn with us in dealing with her Majesty, and inviting her for this effect: Which as it is an humble and dutifull expression of the love and tender respect of both Kingdomes; so do we conceive, that it may be a powerfull mean to contribute to that more full and hearty agreement, which we and all His Majesties good Subjects do wish betwixt his Majesty, & his Parliament.

You shall likewise represent to His Majesty, that the Commissioners have taken special notice of His M^{ties} excepting Sir *Arch: Johnston* of Waristoun out of the safe conduct, and humbly to desire that his Majesty may take into his Royal consideration, of what consequence it may be, & what prejudice it may produce in the opinion of his good subjects, if any who are intrusted in the publick Affairs of this Kingdome, authorized thereto by his M^{tie} and Parliament, shal upon private & particular information, be rendred incapable of that trust, or put out of his Majesties protection, before a legall processe be made, and sentence past against them, And which you shal urge upon the reasons and grounds you have here debated. And we desire that you may humbly beseech his Majesty (who we are confident is, & ever will be most tender of the priviledge of Parliament, and liberty of the Subject) may be graciously pleased to remove this stop, since we have made

choyce of him, as of one who hath given sufficient proof of his fidelity, and hath never to our knowledge done any thing to the prejudice of his Majesties Royal Person, Honour, or Authority.

THE COMMISSIONERS LETTER

Sent to his Majestie with the Lord Chancellor.

MOST SACRED SOVERAIGNE,



Our ardent and earnest desire of the honour of GOD, of Your Majesties safety & happinesse, and of the peace of Your Kingdomes, moved us Your Majesties most humble and loving Subjects, according to our Commission, & the trust reposed in us, by Your M^{tie} and Your Parliament, in such an exigence and extremity to offer our selves & our best endeavours for composing and removing these unhappy differences betwixt Your Majestie and Your houses of Parliament; and therefore to importune Your Majestie for a safe conduct: So having of Your Majesties Royall grace and goodnes received the same from the hand of the Lord Secretary, we have after long consultations in severall meetings, made choise of some of our own number, *John Earle of Lowdown*, Lord High Chancellor, *John Earle of Lindsay*, Sir *Archibald Johnston*, & Master *Robert Barclay*, whom we do in all humility & earnestnes recommend to Your Majesties favourable acceptance, & do intreat, that Your Majesty may be pleased to hearken to our counsells and overtures, wherewith they are intrusted, as proceeding from honest & loyall hearts, desiring nothing more, then that God may be honoured in Your Majesties greatnes, & the prosperous estate of Your Kingdomes, & which we are very confident, will carry along with them the prayers and desires of the whole body

body of this Your Majesties Native Kingdome, extremely longing for the happy end of the present troubles: which after a speciall manner should be, and is the desire of Your most humble, faithfull, and dutifull subjects and servants. *Edinb. 18. Jan. 1643.*

The Declaration of the Commissioners appointed by the Kings Majesty and Parliament of Scotland, for conserving the Articles of Treaty, and Peace betwixt the two Kingdomes, met at Edinburgh. 18 Ian. 1643.

To the honourable Houses of the Parliament of England.



Nothing on earth can be more grievous unto us and this whole Kirk and Kingdome, then the un-naturall and un-happy differences in England, and the so long lasting troubles and sufferings of our Native King, and our brethren in that Kingdome, to the effusion of Brittish & Christian blood, the great offence of the neighbouring Kirks and Kingdomes, & to the hinderance of the so much & universally desired Reformation of Religion. The sense of these great miseries, and the fear of greater, imminent to both Kingdomes, suffered us not to rest, till according to our Commission, and the trust reposed in us, we made offer of our selves, and all that is in our power, for remedying of so

great evils , and removall of so heavy and deplorable calamities. For which end, as we were earnest, by reason of the present posture of that Kingdome, to have a safe conduct from the Kings Majesty and the Houses of Parliament: so having obtained the same of both, our restless desires to contribute our utmost endeavours in so pious and pressing a duty did encrease upon us , and become more ardent then before : which hath made us after so much agitation of so weightie and important affairs , resolve to send some of our own number, with such Instructions and Overtures , as we judge most convenient for the good of Religion , the Kings Honour , the pacification of the Kingdome of England, and the peace of both Kingdomes. And therefore as we do earnestly recommend the Persons which carry our desires to the kinnesse and care of the Honourable Houses of Parliament; so do we intreat , and expect from their wisdom and goodnesse that our counsell and desires may find acceptance , as proceeding from such a Christian and brotherly affection, as desireth nothing more, then the glory and honour of G O D , the greatnesse and happinesse of the King , and the peace and prosperity of His Kingdomes, And which we are assured being hearkened unto by the Honourable Houses of Parliament , will give great satisfaction and content to this whole Nation, extremely longing for a comfortable close of the present troubles, that by unity of Religion, and a well grounded peace in themselves, and either with other, the two Kingdomes may be firmly united , and strongly established against all intestine division, and forraign power under His Majestie as one Head and Monarch , whom G O D Almighty save and graciously give, in Religion, Righteousnesse and Peace, long to reign over us.

*The Councels two Letters to His
Majestie.*

Most sacred Sovereigne,



WE cannot cease from representing to Your Majesty from time to time, what may conduce for the good of Religion, Your Majesties honour, and the good of Your Kingdomes. A Petition hath been lately presented to us from the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly, earnestly entreating for our recommendation of their humble supplication to Your Majesty, for unity of Religion & Kirk-government in Your Majesties Dominions, for a meeting of judicious and sound Divines to that effect, and for removing of all impediments of the one or the other, with such other particulars as the supplication it self doth bear: Which although formerly recommended by us to Your Majesty, yet considering them to be matters so pious in themselves, and of more nor ordinarie importance to Your Majesty and Your Dominions, we are imboldned of new most humbly to beg Your Majesties favourable acceptance, both to the Bearer Master *Alexander Henderson*, who is not unknown to Your Majesty, and to the humble desires of the supplication, as arising from no other Originall, then doth our recommendation, the zeal of the true Religion, the tender care of Your Majesties happinesse, and the love of the publick: Which is, and ever shall be the greatest ambition of Your Majesties, most humble and faithfull Servants and Subjects.

Edinburgh 24 Jan. 1643.

Most

Most sacred Sovereigne,



WE make no new motion to Your sacred Majesty at this time: We only renew our former desires and prayers for Your Majesties happines and preservation, in the midst of so many dangers, and for the peace of Your Kingdomes, extremely desired and longed for by us, and all Your Majesties good subjects of this Kingdome. And knowing that for these desirable ends, the Commissioners for conserving the Peace betwixt Your Majesties two Kingdomes of Scotland & England (of which number some of us, who are honoured to be Your Majesties Counsellours make a great part) upon the receipt of Your Majesties safe conduct, have resolved to send some from them to Your Majesty, and Your Parliament. We could not of duty, but recommend to Your Majesties gracious acceptance, both the Persons, and their Commission, and in all humility and earnestnes of heart, intreat that Your Majesty may be pleased to give eare unto their desires, which they are trusted to represent, as coming from no other fountain, then zeal to God, and innate love to Your Majesty, and running to no other end, then that God may be honoured in your M^{ties} glory, and the greatnes of your Kingdome, & which we know, will strongly carry along with them the affections, desires, and endeavours of this whole Kirk & Kingdome, impatient till they hear of the settling of these unhappy & comfortlesse commotions. In which disposition of heart it becomes us to be als far before all others, as we have above all others the trust and honour to be upon your Majesties Councel, & after a speciall manner to approve our selves your Majesties most humble and faithfull subjects and servants.

F I N I S.

